customers. OMCs have reported 51 established cases of pilferage of LPG against their LPG distributors during last three years detected after investigation by them *suo-moto* as well as from the complaints received from the consumers. The State-wise details are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(d) and (e) At present, OMCs are using heat shrinkable preformed Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC) seals, developed and recommended by the LPG Equipment Research Centre (LERC), as a tamper evident sealing system for LPG cylinders with a view to supplying correct weight of LPG to the consumers. PVC seals are difficult to duplicate, shrink at high temperature and require special technical expertise to manufacture. There is no proposal to replace the PVC seals in use.

***Statement***

*The details of cases on pilferage of LPG detected by Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) against their distributors during last three years* (2003-05)

| States/UTs | 2002-03 | 2003-04 | 2004-05 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Andhra Pradesh | - | 1 | - |
| Delhi | 6 | 3 | 5 |
| Gujarat | - | - | 3 |
| Jammu & Kashmir | 1 | - | - |
| Maharashtra | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Orissa | 3 | - | - |
| Punjab | 1 | - | 2 |
| Rajasthan | 1 | 2 | 4 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| West Bengal | 4 | - | - |
| Chandigarh | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| TOTAL : | 20 | 11 | 20 |

**AP's request for share in gas reserves**

908. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently ONGC has found significant gas reserves in well No. GS-159 in KG basin in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any demand or request from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has been received for giving it some gas for its consumption;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action that has been contemplated on the demand/request of the State Government of Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) has found gas in well GS-15-9 drilled on GS-15 prospect in the shallow waters of Krishna Godavari Basin, 12 Km off the Amalapuram coast in Andhra Pradesh at a water depth of 17.8 metres. The well has encountered a new pool with a gas column of about 45 metres having a thin oil rim at the bottom. The potential of the lead is under assessment.

(c) to (e) The Government of Andhra Pradesh have requested the Government of India to direct GAIL India Ltd. (GAIL)/ONGC to increase supplies of natural gas for four upcoming power projects. Accordingly, ONGC, the main producer in KG Basin, has been advised to make all efforts to enhance production from their existing as well as new fields, so that availability of gas may be augmented for the upcoming power projects. GAIL have also been advised to explore the possibility of augmenting supplies from other sources, including gas at market price from Joint Ventures.

**Self-sufficiency in oil sector**

909. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country is running out of oil with 0.4 per cent of the world's oil reserves left in the country for 15 per cent of the world's population;

(b) what is the status of the oil reserves of other countries *vis-a-vis* their population;

(c) whether the self-sufficiency in oil has now become a distant dream, if so, what is the annual production in the country at present and projections for the next five years; and